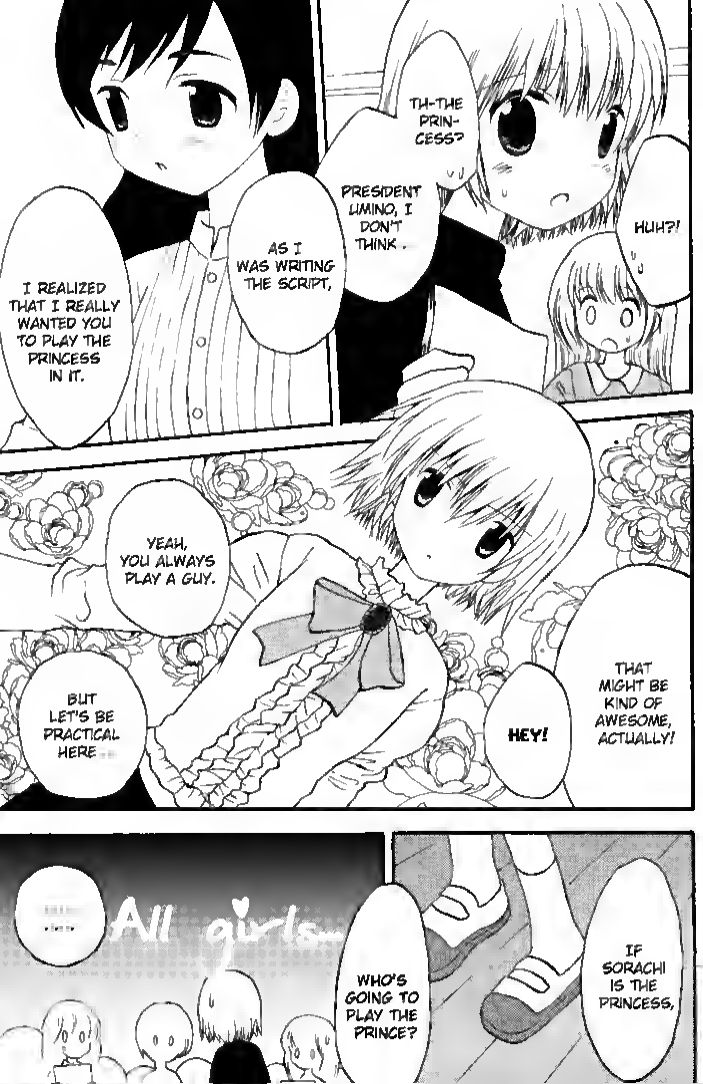
Lililicious~may its fragrance encompass you
lilicious@hanmail.net, http://lililicious.net

to go to battle
The prince left the small woodland castle
THE PRINCESS BADE HIM A SAD FAREWELL
Drama Club
OUR LAST PLAY IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
AS SHE STOOD BY A POND WHERE WILD ROSES BLOOMED
WILL BE THE TALE OF THE WILD ROSES, HUH?
SO,
YOU'LL PLAY THE PRINCE, RIGHT, SORACHI?
YEAH, YOU SHOULD
M-MAYBE...
I'D LIKE SORACHI TO PLAY THE PRINCESS THIS TIME...
WAIT!

The Tale of the Wild Roses
星逢ひろ
●Hiro Hoshiai Presents●


TH-THE PRIN-CESS?
HUH?!
PRESIDENT UMINO, I DON'T THINK .
AS I WAS WRITING THE SCRIPT,
I REALIZED THAT I REALLY WANTED YOU TO PLAY THE PRINCESS IN IT.
YEAH, YOU ALWAYS PLAY A GUY.
BUT LET'S BE PRACTICAL HERE...
HEY!
THAT MIGHT BE KIND OF AWESOME, ACTUALLY!
All girls...
WHO'S GOING TO PLAY THE PRINCE?
IF SORACHI IS THE PRINCESS,

OH, I KNOW!
HUH?!
B-BUT I JUST WRITE THE SCRIPTS. THAT'S DIFFERENT FROM ACTING. .
point!
You could be the prince!
How about you, President?!
Ooh, Prince Umino! That could work!!
AND YOU'RE TALL. LIKE SORACHI THIS JUST MIGHT WORK!
UH. . YOU SERIOUSLY WANT ME TO BE THE PRINCESS? I've never played a girl before!
H-HEY, WAIT A MINUTE!
I NEVER SAID I'D DO--
But if Sorachi's going to be the princess, youre the only one who can play a guy, President!! Everyone else is too short
URK..

I REALLY DID
BUT
HAVE YOU IN MIND WHEN I WROTE THE CHARACTER...
GEEZ. HOW DID THINGS TURN OUT LIKE THIS?
How'd I get stuck playing the prince?
Oh! I just realized something
THAT'S WEIRD.
I ALWAYS PLAY GUYS, Y'KNOW?
WELL, IT'S ALL BECAUSE YOU MADE ME THE PRINCESS, RIGHT?
WELL,
IT'S OUR LAST ELEMENTARY-SCHOOL PLAY...
If I'm playing a princess...
SO LET'S GIVE IT ALL WE'VE GOT!

READY TO DO A READ-THROUGH?
HEHE...
THAT WOULD LOOK TOTALLY OFF ON ME, HUH?
I'll get to wear a dress...
PRIN-CESS...
I MUST GO TO BATTLE.
WHOA.. THE PRESIDENT IS ACTING!!
I've never seen her act before!
Not very good at it, is she?

your safe return..
will await
Your Highness,
HEY, NOW.
You really sounded like a girl!
Wow, Sorachi! That was awesome!!
Many words were said that day,
but no sweeping declarations of love.
They parted ways by a pond where wild roses bloomed

was in every word he spoke
However the prince's love for the princess
and the wild roses beautifully withered away
She collapsed by the side of the pond,
The princess could not accept his love.
The president is a good writer.
OH, BEFORE I FORGET --
WE'LL PROBABLY BE USING MOST OF OUR BUDGET ON THE SETS,
HUH...?
SO EVERYONE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN COSTUMES.
YOU'LL NEED A DRESS FOR YOURS, SORACHI. THANKS FOR TAKING CARE OF THAT!

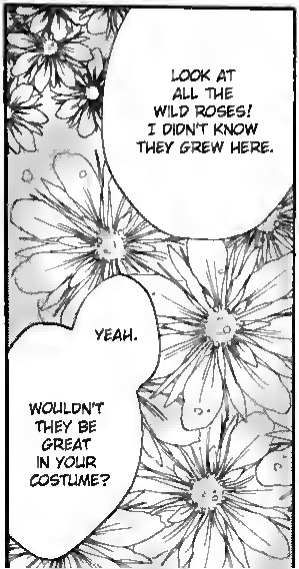
HAVING PROBLEMS FINDING A DRESS TO USE FOR YOUR COSTUME?
...OH!
SORACHI ... ARE YOU
ding
dong
We have to provide our own costumes, huh?
YEAH, KINDA
BUT DON'T WORRY. I'LL FIGURE SOMETHING OUT.
A BUNCH OF BROTHERS, SO MONEY'S TIGHT AT HOME.
...I HAVE

SO...
I MOSTLY WEAR MY BROTHERS' HAND-ME-DOWNS...
I'VE WORN BOYS' CLOTHES EVER SINCE I WAS LITTLE.
MAYBE THAT'S ONE OF THE REASONS WHY I DON'T MIND PLAYING A GUY.
SORACHI.
OH! BUT I'LL FIND A DRESS FOR THE PLAY SOMEHOW,
DON'T WORRY...
IT'S TOO BAD YOU HAVE TO WEAR BOYS' CLOTHES
YOUR CUTENESS IS GOING TO WASTE.
Huh...?!
Urk! What are you talking about?
NO, IT'S TRUE!

HEY,
I HAVE AN IDEA..
Sometimes... smooth lines just come rolling off her tongue...
HOW ABOUT WE MAKE YOUR DRESS TOGETHER?
HUH?
I HAVE AN IMAGE IN MY HEAD OF WHAT I WANT YOUR PRINCESS COSTUME TO LOOK LIKE.
PRESIDENT...
AND IF WE MAKE IT OURSELVES, IT SHOULD BE CHEAP, TOO! LET'S DO IT!
I'll get ahold of the materials for it!
HOW ABOUT
A LITTLE DETOUR?

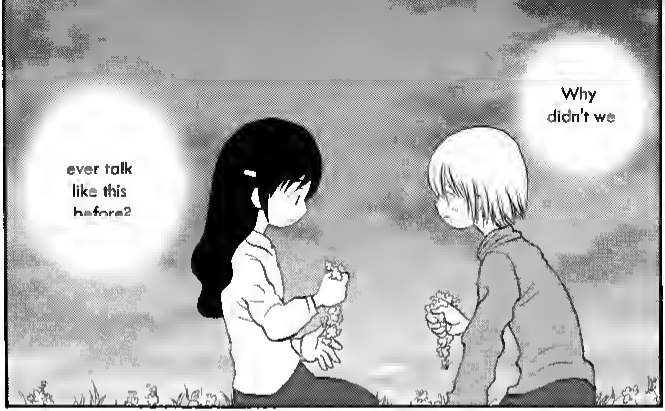
YOU ALWAYS PLAY GUYS' PARTS...
BUT I GET THE FEELING
THAT YOU COULD PLAY ANY ROLE YOU TRIED...
Pres-
ident...

I'VE
ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE YOU IN A CUTE DRESS, SORACHI.
What the heck?!
HMM
WHAT IS IT ABOUT YOU?


LOOK AT ALL THE WILD ROSES! I DIDN'T KNOW THEY GREW HERE.
YEAH.
WOULDN'T THEY BE GREAT IN YOUR COSTUME?

OH, WOW!

Y-YOU'RE AMAZING, PRESIDENT.
YOU WRITE ALL YOUR PLAYS FROM SCRATCH.
YEAH,
I LIKE MAKING UP STORIES. IT'S FUN
ON PAPER,
YOU CAN WRITE ABOUT ANY SORT OF LIVES YOU WANT.
AND WHEN PEOPLE ACT YOUR PLAYS OUT,
IT'S INCREDIBLE.
I KNOW JUST WHAT YOU MEAN!
THE CHARACTERS YOU'VE CREATED COME TO LIFE...
I CAN'T WRITE PLAYS OR ANYTHING,
BUT WHEN I'M ACTING, I CAN BECOME A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON.
IT'S FUN. THAT'S WHY I ENJOY PLAYING GUYS TOO.
Talking about the things you like
sure is fun.


Why didn't we
ever talk like this before?

OUCH!
SORA-CHI?!
WHAT IS IT?
OWW-WW.
DIDN'T I JUST TELL YOU TO WATCH OUT FOR THE THORNS?
HERE, LET ME SEE.

POP
We picked roses together
until nightfall.

PRIN-
CESS...
YOU ARE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CREATURE IN THE ENTIRE WORLD...
OUCH...
.....
.....
I THINK SHE'S SLOWLY GETTING BETTER, THOUGH...
WE'RE FROM THE ART CLUB.
WE HAVE SOME OF THE SETS FOR YOU!
WE'LL SET THEM UP.
HEY, PRES-
IDENT,
THE PRINCE
NEVER COMES BACK, DOES HE?
NO.
IT DOESN'T COME RIGHT OUT AND SAY SO,
BUT IT'S A TRAGIC LOVE STORY

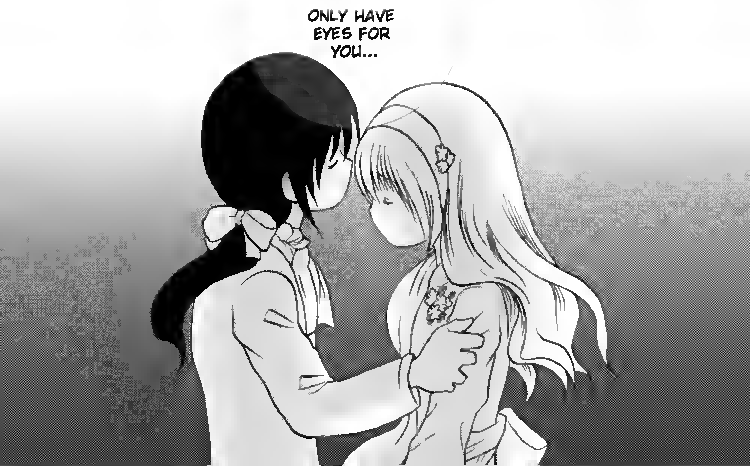
OH..
.. BUT
THEY REALLY DID LOVE EACH OTHER,
EVEN IF THEY NEVER SAID THE WORDS

The day of my last elementary school cultural festival arrived...
WOW, YOU LOOK SO CUTE, SORACHI!
THE PRESIDENT AND I MADE IT TOGETHER, FROM SCRATCH!!
A wig
THE PRESIDENT WAS RIGHT--
YOU LOOK ADORABLE LIKE THAT!
EHEHE...

It's time.
NO, I HAVE TO FOCUS!
GET IN CHAR-ACTER...
THIS IS EMBARRASSING, THOUGH...
am now
I
SQUEAL
You're so cool!!
Whoa!
You look handsome, President!!
his princess...
READY TO GO ON?
YES
LET'S GO.

PRIN-
CESS...
THE TIME
HAS COME
FOR US
TO PART.
Whoooo!
The president is
so cool!!
Shuu
I'M GLAD
THAT I
COULD GAZE
UPON YOUR
LOVELINESS
ONE LAST
TIME...
OH!
YOU ARE
THE ONLY ONE
WHO WOULD
SAY SUCH
THINGS ABOUT
ME.

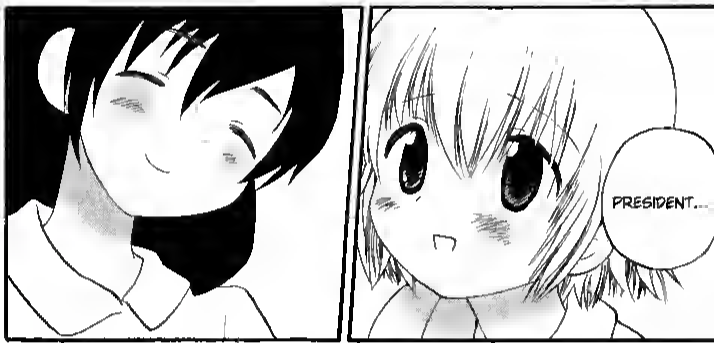
IF THAT IS SO
THEN IT MUST BE THAT
NO ONE ELSE HAS SEEN YOU AS I HAVE...
FOR I

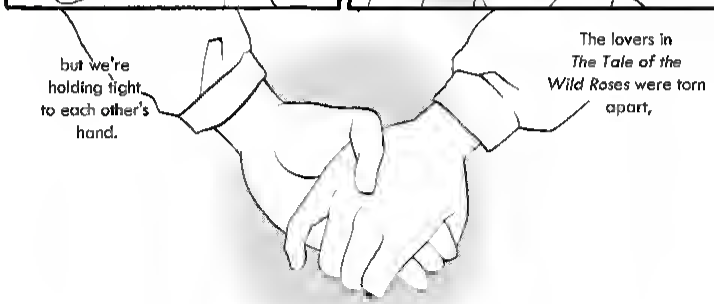

ONLY HAVE EYES FOR YOU...

THE DRESS
LOOKED REALLY GOOD ON YOU.
IT'S OVER..
YEAH.
THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING, PRESIDENT.
I SHOULD BE THE ONE THANKING YOU.
SORACHI,
YOU'VE BEEN
ACTING OUT MY PLAYS
FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS
I'M TRULY GRATEFUL.

I THINK THAT YOUR SUPERB ACTING
HAS ENCOURAGED ME TO DO MY BEST, TOO.
I WAS GLAD YOU PLAYED THE PRINCESS IN OUR LAST PLAY.
YOU WERE ABSOLUTELY STUNNING.
.....
.....
THANKS
Is the president able to say embarrassing things so naturally
because she writes plays?
AND IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU
THAT I WAS ABLE TO REALLY BECOME THE PRINCESS.

I WAS ABLE TO BECOME THE PRINCE
BECAUSE I WAS PLAYING OPPOSITE YOU.
THE SAME WAS TRUE FOR ME...
I THINK


PRESIDENT...


The lovers in *The Tale of the Wild Roses* were torn apart,
but we're holding tight to each other's hand.

END

The Tale of the Wild Roses

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vol.3
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